Monkey menace in Delhi

1916. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that swift movement of monkeys in North and South Blocks, Parliament House and other Government office buildings around Central vista are damaging lights, archival files and biting officials;

(b) if so, the effective measures that have been taken so far, other than deploying 'trained langoors' to frighten away the monkeys occasionally; and

(c) Government's long-term national policy in this regard so that no-Metro cities also do not face this problem, where monkeys/dogs near temples are also recklessly biting the devotees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has reported that monkey menace is rampant in many localities of the NDMC area. However, no case of biting and damaging of property by the monkeys has been reported in the NDMC area in recent months.

(b) NDMC has reported that 611 monkeys have been trapped during the period from March to November, 2007 utilizing the cages and the services of the specialist monkey catchers. The captured monkeys are released in the forest area in Asola - Bhatti Wild Life Sanctuary.

(c) As the problem is of local nature, appropriate steps are within the jurisdiction of local bodies/State Government.

Earnings of Metro in Delhi

1917. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present earnings per day from Metro operations of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation in Delhi;

(b) whether any part of the earnings is being utilized for repayment of loans, R&D and welfare of commuters;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any more amenities are proposed to be provided by way of concessional fares for senior citizens physically challenged people and other vulnerable sections of the community; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Ltd. has reported that the present earnings per day from Metro operation is Rs. 70 lakh approximately.

(b) and (c) The income generated from the operation is utilized for the repayment of loan also. DMRC has fulfilled all its loan repayment commitments till date aggregating to Rs. 268.72 crore. Drinking water, toilet facilities etc. have been provided at stations for the welfare of the commuters. Recently, feeder buses have been introduced to carry passengers